

# GRAYSON COLLEGE

## *Private Lesson Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

Course Numbers: MUAP 1187, 1287, 2187, 2287  
Course Title: *Composition 1* (MUAP 1117 & 2117) *Composition 2* (MUAP 1217 & 2217)  
Section: 001 (.501 8 week)  
Type of Course: Face-to-Face Private Lesson by Appointment  
Location: AC102

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### **Professor Contact Information**

Dr. Joseph Lyszczarz  
Email: lyszczarzj@grayson.edu  
Office: AC102  
Office Hour: By Appointment or TBA

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### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

None

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### **Course Description**

MUAP 1187 and 2187: (0-1-1): Private instruction on a continually graded basis is offered to music students. Students enrolling in this course receive one half-hour lesson each week. May be repeated one time for credit.

MUAP 1287 and 2287: (0-2-2): Private instruction on a continually graded basis is offered to music students. Students enrolling in this course receive one-hour lesson each week. May be repeated one time for credit.

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### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a general knowledge of the craft of musical composition
  2. Students will demonstrate proper preparation of notated or electronic music for performance
  3. Students will employ skills acquired in lessons towards realizing assigned composition projects
  4. Students will be recognize their work in the context of classical music composition in the twenty-first century
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### **Required Textbooks (ISBN # included) and Materials**

- Metronome (phone apps acceptable)
- Manuscript paper\* (recommended Archive SB18S64) and pencils with erasers
- Access to notation software (provided via college noteflight subscription – **Dorico** or **Sibelius** is preferred for best results. **Musescore** is a good free option as well. Finale is not recommended but acceptable.
- Access to DAW or other audio software for electronic composition/processing of recorded compositions
- Other required material will be determined in the lesson appropriate to the level of the student.

*\*Note: beware of manuscript paper with preprinted clefs or with too-wide spacing! I can provide printable files of manuscript paper if needed*

## Suggested Course Materials

### Music Notation Manual: (any of the following)

Gould, Elaine. *Behind Bars: The Definitive Guide to Music Notation*

Read, Gardner. *Music Notation: A Manual of Modern Practice.*

Stone, Kurt. *Music Notation in the Twentieth Century: A Practical Guidebook*

### Audio Software (if interested in electroacoustic music)

Reaper (Digital Audio Workstation)

Max 8 (Music Programming Environment)

### Composition Lesson Listening List & Spotify Playlist

See Canvas course shell for links to listening list and playlist

### Youtube Score Resources

Score Follower channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsCyncBPEzI6pb\\_pmALJ9Tw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsCyncBPEzI6pb_pmALJ9Tw)

Incipitsify channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZkBfgFnWZdr2Kcsgciba4Q>

## Course Structure

This course is a private lesson course consisting of weekly meetings. Students will sign up for their weekly composition lesson time in advance of the first week of classes. Students are expected to bring in newly composed music for each lesson for discussion.

## Assignments and Course Guidelines

- Students enrolled in composition lessons will be required to complete at **minimum one substantial composition project**, taking into consideration the student's experience level and interests. The scope, length, and instrumentation of composition project(s) will be decided in consultation with the instructor.
- Smaller technical exercises, reading, and listening activities may be assigned to supplement the primary project(s).
- Students enrolled in composition lessons will be expected to assemble and keep a portfolio of their composition accomplishments during while taking lessons. See "Jury and Portfolio" below.
- For the best possible results, composing requires consistent and regular work as if you were practicing an instrument. Students should expect to develop and maintain a regular composition schedule in order to make sufficient progress on their projects. Individual composer's schedules may vary, but for someone new to composition, I would recommend aiming for **at least 30 min** a day minimum when first starting, gradually raising as appropriate.
- Students are **highly encouraged** to present their projects in a live performance environment at least once per semester. With approval from your instructor, your project may be prepared and recommended for performance on the Grayson Music Department Recital at the end of the semester.

## Jury and Portfolio

Students are expected to maintain a composition portfolio as part of lessons. This portfolio may be physical or digital, and should consist of the following items:

1. Scores of works composed – bound appropriately for professional performance

2. Audio Recordings of works composed
3. Programs from public performances of works
4. Program notes or other writings about works as appropriate

Students enrolled in composition lessons will present a final Jury during Week 15. This jury will consist of passing around copies of the composition portfolio developed during composition study, as well as a brief presentation to the jurors on the composition(s) they've completed during the semester of study. More information will be available on the course canvas shell.

### Academic Calendar

Week 1	Private Lesson
Week 2	Private Lesson
Week 3	Private Lesson
Week 4	Private Lesson
Week 5	Private Lesson
Week 6	Private Lesson
Week 7	Private Lesson
Week 8	Midterm Jury
Week 9	Private Lesson
Week 10	Private Lesson
Week 11	Private Lesson
Week 12	Private Lesson
Week 13	Private Lesson
Week 14	Private Lesson
Week 15	Jury: Friday of the last week of classes
Week 16	No Final

**In case of inclement weather, emergency closings, or other unforeseen disruptions to scheduled classes, student must log onto their Canvas accounts for directions on where or how to continue their coursework.**

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### Methods of Evaluation

#### Grading

Categories	Percentage
Attendance	30%
Participation	30%
Composition Jury	40%

#### **Attendance: 30%**

Calculated as a simple percentage of all the lessons attended by all of the lessons offered. Two tardy equal one absence, and you are considered tardy if you arrive more than five minutes late to the lesson. Showing up for each lesson is extremely important toward your development.

#### **Participation: 30%**

This is based upon both your preparation outside of lessons, and your work within in the lesson. In composition lessons, this includes but is not limited to: (1) Bringing in newly composed music for discussion each week, (2) completing assigned exercises and listening assignments, (3) contributing meaningfully to musical and compositional discussion during lessons.

<b>Participation Grade</b>	<b>Description</b>
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continual progress made and thoughtfulness in composition projects</li> <li>• Topics discussed in lessons integrated into compositions in meaningful ways</li> <li>• Weekly work is well prepared</li> </ul>
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally good, thoughtful work</li> <li>• Some deficiencies in weekly preparation</li> </ul>
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulties in producing regular work (outside of extenuating circumstance)</li> <li>• Low effort in assigned listening and discussion</li> </ul>
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent pattern indicating lack of work or engagement outside of lesson</li> </ul>
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No evidence of work on assigned projects</li> <li>• No preparation of assigned listening or exercises</li> </ul>

### **Composition Jury: 40%**

The jury is a review of your composition projects and portfolio by a panel of jurors. Juries are held on the Friday of the last week of classes (there are no lesson during jury week). Students who have achieved a high level of proficiency may be asked to curate a public performance of their composition project.

### **Methods of Instruction**

Private lessons are a one-on-one lesson held once a week at an agreed upon time. Once the time has been solidified the time will remain the same throughout the semester.

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

1. Since private lessons are a one-on-one meeting, if you know that you are going to miss a lesson please contact me at [lyszczarj@grayson.edu](mailto:lyszczarj@grayson.edu). Note that this will still be considered an absence.
2. There are no excused absences.
3. There are no make-ups for missed lessons.

### **Student Conduct & Discipline**

1. Bring a good attitude and hard work ethic to every lesson.
2. Prepared for each lesson with daily practice.
3. Private lessons should be just as important as your other classes. Remember ...you chose to be here.
4. Cell phones are to be silenced and left alone during lesson time. No Texting!

5. No eating or drinking in practice rooms! Beverages must be in a spill proof container.
6. At any time, the instructor has the authority to ask a student to leave the lesson for any infraction of the above and this expulsion will be treated as an absence for that particular class.

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### **Student Responsibility**

You have already made the decision to go to college; now the follow-up decisions on whether to commit to doing the work could very well determine whether you end up working at a good paying job in a field you enjoy or working at minimum wage for the rest of your life. Education involves a partnership that requires both students and instructors to do their parts. By entering into this partnership, you have a responsibility to show up for class, do the assignments and reading, be engaged and pay attention in class, follow directions, and put your best effort into it. You will get out of your experience here exactly what you put into it – nothing more and nothing less.

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### **Attendance**

Academic success is closely associated with regular classroom attendance and course participation. All successful students, whether on campus or online, are expected to be highly self-motivated. All students are required to participate in courses regularly and are obliged to participate in class activities and complete and submit assignments following their professors' instructions. Students taking courses during compressed semester time frames such as mini-mester, summer sessions, and mid-semester should plan to spend significantly more time per week on the course. Responsibility for work missed because of illness or school business is placed upon the student. More than two (2) absences are considered to be excessive. In addition, students' eligibility to receive financial aid or live in a College dormitory can be affected by withdrawal from courses. When withdrawal occurs, any tuition refund would be made in accordance with state regulations.

### **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is a form of scholastic dishonesty involving the theft of or fraudulent representation of someone else's ideas or words as the student's original work. Plagiarism can be intentional/deliberate or unintentional/accidental. Unintentional/Accidental plagiarism may include *minor* instances where an attempt to acknowledge the source exists but is incorrect or insufficient.

Deliberate/Intentional plagiarism violates a student's academic integrity and exists in the following forms:

- Turning in someone else's work as the student's own (such as buying a paper and submitting it, exchanging papers or collaborating on a paper with someone else without permission, or paying someone else to write or translate a paper),
- Recycling in whole or in part previously submitted or published work or concurrently submitting the same written work where the expectation for current original work exists, including agreeing to write or sell one's own work to someone else,
- Quoting or copy/pasting phrases of three words or more from someone else without citation,
- Paraphrasing ideas without citation or paraphrasing incompletely, with or without correct citation, where the material too closely matches the wording or structure of the original,
- Submitting an assignment with a majority of quoted or paraphrased material from other sources, even if correctly cited, when original work from the student is expected,
- Copying images or media and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Using copyrighted soundtracks or video and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Giving incorrect or nonexistent source information or inventing source information,
- Performing a copyrighted piece of music in a public setting without permission,
- Composing music based heavily on someone else's musical composition.

Please refer to your course syllabus. Infractions may result in disciplinary options on behalf of the faculty member and/or dean.

**Any assignment containing plagiarized content or otherwise infringing on academic honesty policy will be given a grade of 0%.**

#### **TITLE IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:

Dr. Regina Organ, Title IX Coordinator (903-463-8714)

Mr. Brad Bankhead, Title IX Deputy Coordinator- South Campus (903) 415-2601

Mr. Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator (903) 463-8753

Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>

GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777- Main Campus) (903) 415-2501 - South Campus)

GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8730

For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

**Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found on our Current Student Page on our website: <http://grayson.edu/current-students/index.html>**

**Grayson College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.**

**These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor. The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to course policies as he sees fit, on a case-by-case basis.**